



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 15th, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The Regular Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Wednesday July 15th, 2026, at 5:35pm in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy
Councillor Dana O'Connell
Councillor Scott Beaver
Councillor Emma Tibbo

Absent with Regrets:

Warden James Fuller

Also Attending:

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Teddy Stevens, Director of Public Works
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes:

On motion of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approve the minutes from the Council meeting held Wednesday, June 17th, 2026.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the minutes from the Emergency Meeting of Council held Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council approve the minutes from the Emergency Meeting of Council held Tuesday, July 7th, 2026.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- a. There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Recommendations from Committees of Council:

Committee of the Whole – June 3rd, 2026

On motion of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council repeal the existing municipal Emergency Measures By-Law, such repeal to take effect upon the coming into force of the Regional Emergency Management Organization By-Law.

Motion Approved.

Council – June 17th, 2026

On motion of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council give Second Reading to the Regional Emergency Management Organization By-Law.

Motion Approved.

Committee of the Whole – July 6th, 2026

Type of Award	Recognition by	Category
Years of Service in 10-Year Increments	Pins	First Responders (Reported by Organization) Healthcare (Reported by Organization)
Valour and Outstanding Service	Award/Plaque	First Responders (Nominated by Organization) Maximum of Three Total Nominations per Organization (13 Organizations) (Max 39 awards)
Outstanding Service and Leadership/Mentoring	Award/Plaque	Health care (Nominated by Organization) Maximum of Three Total Nominations per Organization (4 Organizations) (Max 12 awards)
Volunteer of the Year	Award/Plaque	One Award

On motion of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the proposed Community Heroes Appreciation Event award categories, nomination process, and number of awards per category as outlined in this report.

Motion approved.

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver, seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council appoint Councillor Dana O'Connell as a member and Chair of the Source Water Protection Committee for the remainder of the current Council term or until a successor is appointed by Council.

Motion approved.

On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council ratify the expenditure of \$6,500 plus HST to Strait Engineering for professional fees to prepare a submission to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, to provide water resiliency for the Recplex and a public potable water filling station, to be funded from the municipality's capital reserve.

Motion approved.

Committee of the Whole / Planning Advisory Committee – July 15th, 2026

On motion of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor O'Connell, the Committee of the Whole acting in the capacity of the Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Council authorize staff to schedule a public hearing at 5pm on July 30th, 2026, for the Rezoning request for PID #37503547.

Motion Approved.

8. Correspondence – From the Cruiser May & June 2026

- Council reviewed the correspondence for information.

9. Outside Committee Reports

- a. Sherbrooke Village Restoration Committee – March 25th, 2026
 - Council received the report. There were no comments.
- b. Port Bickerton Lighthouse Association – June 29th, 2026
 - Council received the report. There were no comments.

10. Other Matters of Business:

- a. Staff Report – Request for Rezoning - PID 37529856
 - CAO Lesley McFarlane presented the staff report for the request to rezone PID 37529856 in Ecum Secum from Rural Resource to General Commercial to permit the operation of a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station.
 - Council considered the Public Hearing record and noted that no written submissions or oral presentations opposing the application had been received.

Mover: Councillor O'Connell

Seconded: Councillor Tibbo

MOTION:

THAT WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's passed a motion instructing Municipal Staff to schedule a Public Hearing in accordance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA) for the purpose of considering the rezoning of a parcel of land in Ecum Secum from Rural Resource to General Commercial;

AND WHEREAS the land to be rezoned is identified as PID 37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County;

AND WHEREAS a Public Hearing was called for Wednesday, July 15th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 8296 Highway 7 in Sherbrooke, in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS the Public was informed of the Public Hearing through advertisements on the Municipal Website and in a local paper in accordance with the MGA;

AND WHEREAS there were no written objections and no oral presentations with respect to this rezoning;

BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's approve the request to rezone property identified as PID #37529856 in Ecum Secum, Guysborough County, from Rural Resource to General Commercial to allow operation of a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station on the subject property.

Motion Approved.

- b. Staff Report – Grant Submission - Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund
 - CAO Lesley McFarlane presented the staff report for information.
 - Council received the report for information.
- c. Staff Report – J-Class Roads Agreement
 - CAO Lesley McFarlane presented the staff report.

On motion of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council authorize the Municipality to enter into the Province of Nova Scotia's Three-Year Cost Share Agreement No. 2026-020 for the Paving of Subdivision (J-Class) Streets and authorize the Warden and the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the agreement on behalf of the Municipality.

Motion approved.

- d. Staff Report – Transfer Station C&D Water Testing
 - Director of Public Works Teddy Stevens presented the staff report regarding quarterly groundwater and leachate testing at the Transfer Station.
- During discussion:
- Councillor Tibbo questioned whether quotes had only been obtained from Strait Engineering Ltd. Staff advised that Strait Engineering Ltd. was approached because they had conducted the initial investigation.
 - Council discussed the estimated cost of the testing. Director of Public Works clarified that future testing will be less costly as this also includes preparing the plan for future testing.
 - Questions were asked regarding the number of wells being tested and the anticipated duration of the quarterly sampling requirements. Staff advised that testing is currently expected to continue for approximately twenty years, although the Municipality may apply to have the requirement ended earlier if permitted by the Province.

On motion of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve Strait Engineering Ltd to complete the first quarterly transfer station ground water and leachate testing to fulfill the requirements of the NS Department of Environment and Climate Change, for the quoted price of \$13,120+HST, sourced from operating funds budgeted in 2026/27 and carried forward from 2025/26.

Motion approved.

11. CAO Report:

- Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
- CAO Lesley McFarlane provided a verbal report to Council and highlighted:
 - No Expressions of Interest had been received for Section 5.
 - Public Works had completed approximately 6 out of 20 projects and remained ahead of schedule.
 - The Municipality's ice edger had been delivered.
 - Water meter installations continue to be completed by Municipal staff.

- During discussion, Councillor O'Connell asked how many water meters had been installed, staff advised that 6 out of 25 of the new units have been installed. Staff advised that the Municipality's own staff complete the installations.

Adjournment

On motion of Deputy Warden Malloy, there being no further matters of business, the Council adjourned at 6:02pm.



Recorded By
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk



Approved By
Warden Fuller

